Bristol, April 2nd 1846

My dear Sir.

I do not feel quite satisfied with merely wishing well to the Abolition cause in America, (for however desirous I may be of diffusing a knowledge of slavery & Anti Slavery among our friends here, it appears to me a very circuitous, if not a doubtful mode of rendering you any real service,) and I must therefore beg the favour of you to undertake to pay for me a small donation to the fund now in process of formation for forwarding the A.S. Agents, under the direction of the Board of Managers of the Mass. A.S. Society.

My Bankers inform me that a Draft of theirs drawing will be very negociable, and I therefore inclose one for £5. requesting you to calculate its value in dollars and enter it "John B. Estlin Bristol, England" — $ * * *"

I do not however mean to relinquish the more "doubtful & circuitous mode" if

endeavouring to aid your purposes, to which I have referred, and take occasion to print a "Brief History of American Slavery & the Abolition Movement" which I have been writing. I have still no name to it, & intend it for gratuitous circulation, principally, to help the Boston Bazaar. Should it ever find its way across the Atlantic, you will think it came a very defective one: but it professes then demerits purposely. the object is to interest persons unacquainted with the subject, in your cause, and were I immediately to enter into the history of the different A.S. Societies, any useful effect would be greatly frustrated. Still I hope to blame some impediment and mistake in your movement in a prominent, but not offensive point of view.

The last No of Liberator, (the February No) has interested me. of course I soon discovered Mr. Foy's note, & read Mr. Garrison's comments on it. I do not however wish to enter any more into this matter. Mr G's course has all along been a very decided & encouraging one. I give him credit for sincerity, great ability, and high moral principle, and can well overlook the harsh-

a good deal for the cause of Abolition: but, I am equally certain, he could have done a good deal more had he managed the "Liberator", as an Anti Slavery paper, with more discretion - I ~~know~~ can believe however, that altogether he is better suited for an American Editor than an English one: in this country I am sure he would have but very limited influence on any one important subject, if he united so many other matters with it.

The "Liberator" & "Nat. Anti Slavery Standard" contained such ample reference to the United States to the late Fair, that any daily[e] has been very certain in sending them about to the various persons whose names are mentioned, & it is curious to observe how much prejudiced they are, & disposed to work for a future ~~certain~~ fair.

I cannot but think that a few dollars well expended, on another occasion, in having a number of slips containing the account of the fair struck off & sent to the different towns in England where contributions

come — You will be surprised I suppose, at the squeamishness of some of our friends when I tell you, that we can only in a limited manner thus use the "Libeller" on account of the strange mixture of articles in it. "The rights of God" is painfully offensive expression to many of our friends: from one Libeller I have been obliged to cut out an article, or else I must have burned the paper, — that for Jan^y 16. —

I know not when we are to see Douglas: he was to have visited me by the 20th of March, but he writes me word he is so busy lecturing in Scotland that he knows not when he shall be here — I have disposed of 150 copies of this "Narrative" The 2d Dublin edition is worst I & Mr Webb has adopted an alteration I suggested, which renders the passage such as might be read aloud, without concealing the important & unquestionable fact detailed. —

I will inclose a short preparatory announcement of D's visit to us which I inserted in our local papers a week ago.

Mrs Chapman has taken the trouble to write a very long letter to Mr Webb of Dublin in reply to some remarks & enquiries of mine respecting the Am. A.S. Soc^y which I wrote to him without any idea that they would go to Mrs C. The communication

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was a very interesting one. I thank I
to clearly understand the subject now.

I shall send you a No of "Punch" with a most amusing caricature; if you have not seen it, it will make you laugh heartily. I hope our newspapers, those at least I send, are worth what you have to pay for them. If not, I know, I will be merciful. Our "U.S. Repeater" is a poor affair; I so doubted the "Philadelphia Non-Resistant" published by Friends, the first No of which I have seen. It does not promise any very vigorous U.S. battle, — abstinence chiefly, I imagine. I send also a "Daily News" containing the 2nd letter on Amer. Anti Slavery.

Since I had last the pleasure of writing to you I have lost a nephew, a son of Dr Prichard, (whose name you know) a fine, interesting young man who had gone thro' a complete course of classical studies at Oxford, & was about to have a fellowship. Like many other hard students he was worked to death; he was only 24, very amiable & very clever.

Some of the Manchester men were reluctant in Bristol to commit themselves in the "Liberty Bell". One of them was mesmerised: they knew not of its existence, but kindly fancied any would be published.

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I was much obliged by your sending me a portion of a "Felicitana" Paper with adv. of Negro sales: people here are astonished at witnessing with their own eyes such iniquitous announcements. A spectacle of this kind from a slave state will at all times be very acceptable to me.

The ~~packet~~ 2d monthly packet from Boston is not yet arrived; I am not without hope of its bringing me a letter from you.

The draft I inclose upon Roberts' bank, (one of the principal ones in London) will I doubt not be readily paid to your order by any mercantile house that trades with England.

With my daughter's kind remembrance, I remain, my dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

J. B. Estlin.

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